

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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| In re Patent Application of | ) |                        |
| Keiichirou KAI et al.       | ) | Group Art Unit: 1623   |
| Application No.: 10/578,912 | ) | Examiner: L. Bland     |
| Filed: May 9, 2006          | ) | Confirmation No.: 4449 |
| For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING  | ) |                        |
| PENTOSE-5-PHOSPHATE ESTER   | ) |                        |
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**AMENDMENT AND REPLY**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In complete response to the Office Action dated December 4, 2007, Applicants submit herewith the following Amendment and Reply. Also submitted herewith is a One-Month Petition for Extension of Time, extending the period for response from March 4, 2008 to April 4, 2008.